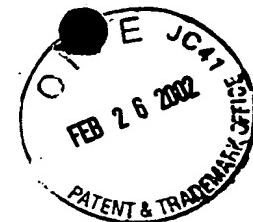


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USPTO MAIL ROOM

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Peter Hildebrandt et al.

Applic. No. : 09/322,715

Filed : May 28, 1999

Title : Coupling Device

Examiner : Sarah Song

Group Art Unit : 2874

A M E N D M E N T

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks,
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir :

Responsive to the Office action dated October 2, 2001 kindly
amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims:

Claim 1 (amended). Coupling device, comprising:

an optical fiber holder having a top face, a bottom face,
narrow side faces between said top face and said bottom face,
with transition regions formed between each of said narrow

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